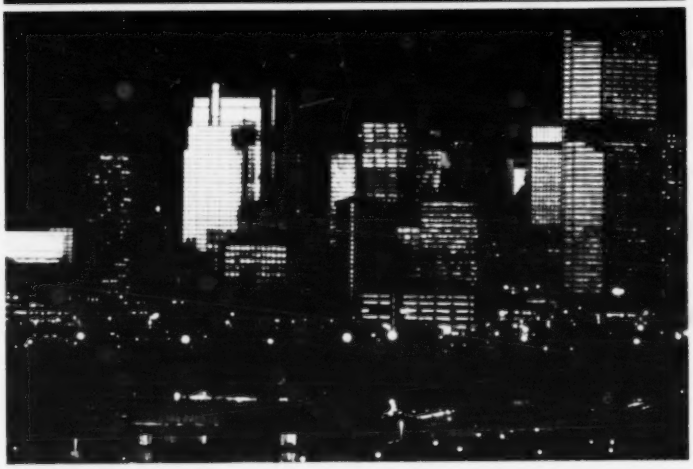

July 2009

Regional Economic Indicators

Government of Alberta

Regional Economic Indicators
Slave Lake Region

July 2009

SLAVE LAKE REGION

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MAJOR MUNICIPALITIES

According to Statistics Canada census data the major municipality in the Slave Lake Region that gained the most population from 2001 to 2006 was Slave Lake with an increase of 1.6% or 103 residents.

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region				
Major Municipalities	**Status**	**2006 Population**	**2001 Population**	**1996 Population**
Slave Lake	Town	6,703	6,600	6,553
Big Lakes, M.D. of	Municipal District	5,948	5,907	4,479
Opportunity No. 17, M.D. of	Municipal District	3,506	3,605	3,060
Lesser Slave River No. 124, M.D. of	Municipal District	2,830	2,830	2,716
High Prairie	Town	2,750	2,737	2,907
Kinusc	Village	219	231	258
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006				

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region				
	2001 - 2006 (5 Years)		**1996 - 2006 (10 Years)**	
Major Municipalities	**% Change**	**Net Change**	**% Change**	**Net Change**
Slave Lake	1.6%	103	2.3%	150
Big Lakes, M.D. of	0.7%	41	32.8%	1,469
Opportunity No. 17, M.D. of	-2.7%	(99)	14.6%	446
Lesser Slave River No. 124, M.D. of	0.0%	0	4.2%	114
High Prairie	0.5%	13	-5.4%	(157)
Kinuso	-5.2%	(12)	-15.1%	(39)
Source: Compilations by Alberta Finance and Enterprise				

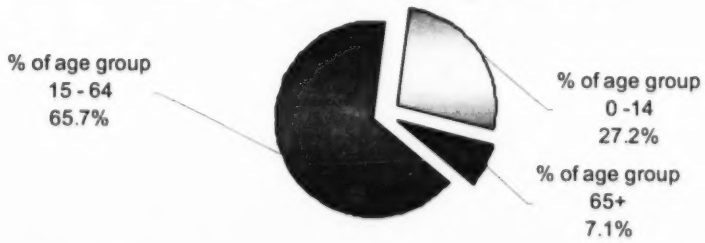
DEMOGRAPHICS

According to Statistics Canada census data, the Slave Lake Region's population increased 5.4% from 2001 to 2006, or by 1,461 residents. This region's population accounted for 0.9% of the province's population.

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region	
Land Area	**Slave Lake**
Square Kilometers	53,544.2
% of Provincial Total	8.4
Total Population	**Slave Lake**
Population (000s), 2006 Census	28,692
% of Provincial Total	0.9%
Population (000s), 2001 Census	27,231
% of Provincial Total	0.9%
Population (000s), 1996 Census	24,850
% of Provincial Total	0.9%
Population Growth (%), 2001 - 2006	5.4%
Population Growth (%), 1996 - 2006	15.5%
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006	

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region			
Population Components	**2006**	**2001**	**1996**
Age Group: 65+ (%)	7.1	6.2	5.6
Age Group: 0 - 14 (%)	27.2	27.5	31.3
Dependency Ratio [1]	52.2	56.4	58.5
Old Age Dependency Ratio [2]	10.7	9.8	8.9
Males, Ages 0 -14 (%)	27.3	29.9	31.1
Females, Ages 0 - 14 (%)	27.3	29.8	31.5
Males, Ages 15 - 64 (%)	65.5	63.9	63.3
Females, Ages 15 - 64 (%)	66.0	63.9	62.9
Males, Ages 65+ (%)	7.3	6.3	5.6
Females, Ages 65+ (%)	7.0	6.3	5.5
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006			

Total Population by Age Group, 2006



IMMIGRATION – PERMANENT RESIDENTS

According to Citizenship and Immigration Canada, in 2007, 23 immigrants selected a location in the Slave Lake Region as their destination of choice on their permanent residence application form.

Please note: This figure does not include temporary foreign workers, students or temporary residents. Also, those that selected a certain province as their destination of choice on their permanent residence application are not required to move to the province indicated. This means that there could potentially be data missing due to immigrants indicating one province as their destination and then actually moving to another.

The annualized percentage growth in immigration from 1997 to 2007 for the Slave Lake Region was 2.9%. The annualized percentage growth from 1997 to 2007 for Alberta was 4.8 %. The total change for the Slave Lake Region was 17.6% (3) between 2002 and 2007, and 33.3% (5) between 1997 and 2007.

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region	
Immigrants, CIC (Permanent Residents) [3]	**Slave Lake**
As of December 31, 1997	15
% of Province	0.1%
As of December 31, 1998	15
% of Province	0.1%
As of December 31, 1999	22
% of Province	0.2%
As of December 31, 2000	11
% of Province	0.1%
As of December 31, 2001	14
% of Province	0.1%
As of December 31, 2002	17
% of Province	0.1%
As of December 31, 2003	12
% of Province	0.1%
As of December 31, 2004	19
% of Province	0.1%
As of December 31, 2005	20
% of Province	0.1%
As of December 31, 2006	23
% of Province	0.1%
As of December 31, 2007	20
% of Province	0.1%
Annualized Percentage Growth, 1997 - 2007, 10 years[4]	**2.9%**
Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) Landing File	

LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

According to the Statistics Canada's census data, the Slave Lake Region's employment rate for the working age population of 15 years and older was 64.7% in 2006 and the participation rate was 71.4%.

Please Note: Statistics Canada cautions the reader that the regional labour force data may be subject to large year-to-year fluctuations, especially for the smaller regions. Hence Statistics Canada Census 2001 and 2006 data was used for all labour force indicators in the Slave Lake Region (see note below table.)

In 2006, the Slave Lake Region's employment rate for the 15 to 24 year old age group was 51.8% and the participation rate was 60.7%. In the same year, the unemployment rate for the working age population of 15 years and older was 9.3% and the unemployment rate for the 15 to 24 year old age group was 14.6%. Alberta had the lowest unemployment rate of all provinces in 2006 at 3.4% - well below the national average of 6.3%

Between 2006 and 2007, the number of people employed in Alberta grew by 4.7% or by 88,700. During that same period, the number of people employed grew by about 289,000 or 17.2% in Alberta.

In 2007, Alberta made up 10.3% of Canada's working age population (15+ years), and the province created just under one-quarter or 23.2% of all new jobs in Canada. Alberta created nearly as many new jobs as Ontario (88,700 vs 101,100), which has more than three times the working age population of Alberta.

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region		
Annual Labour Force Characteristics [5]	**2006***	**2001***
Population: 15+ (000s)	18.4	17.6
Labour Force: 15+ (000s)	13.2	12.4
Employment: 15+ (000s)	11.9	11.1
Unemployment: 15+ (000s)	1.2	1.3
Participation Rate: 15+ (%)	71.4	70.4
Unemployment Rate: 15+ (%)	9.3	10.2
Employment Rate: 15+ (%)	64.7	63.3
Participation Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	60.7	57.5
Unemployment Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	14.6	15.4
Employment Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	51.8	48.6
Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001 and 2006.		

Statistics Canada cautions the reader that the regional labour force data may be subject to large year-to-year fluctuations, especially for the smaller regions, for the following reasons. First, there are no population control totals for special geographies such as these regions. Second, some of the smaller regions have small sample size, leading to greater volatility in the estimates. Third, Statistics Canada periodically redesigns its survey methodology; the latest redesign was done in 2005. Because of these data problems, Census data for 2001 and 2006 were used for all indicators for the smaller regions, and data for these indicators for the other years are not included.

** Census estimate*

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

In 2006, according to Statistics Canada's census, the services-producing sector in the Slave Lake Region accounted for about 62% of the total number employed.

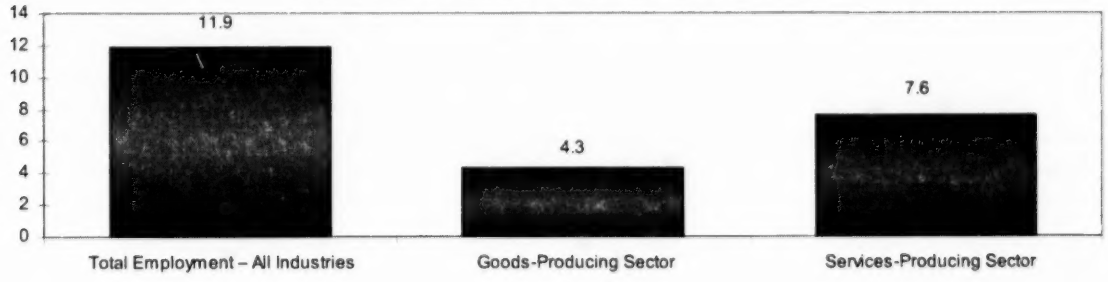
The Retail Trade industry had the largest number of individuals employed. This industry is followed by the Mining and Oil and Gas and Manufacturing industries.

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region		
Employment by Industry [6]	**2006**	**2001**
Total Employment – All Industries	**11.9**	**11.1**
Goods-Producing Sector	**4.3**	**4.1**
Agriculture & Forestry	0.9	1.2
Mining & Oil & Gas	1.2	0.9
Utilities	0.1	0.1
Construction	1.0	0.9
Manufacturing	1.1	1.0
Services-Producing Sector	**7.6**	**7.0**
Wholesale Trade	0.3	0.2
Retail Trade	1.4	1.0
Transportation & Warehousing	0.7	0.7
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing	0.3	0.2
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	0.2	0.3
Business, Building & Other Support Services	0.3	0.3
Educational Services	0.9	1.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	0.9	1.0
Information, Culture & Recreation	0.2	0.3
Accommodation & Food Services	0.7	0.6
Other Services	0.7	0.5
Public Administration	1.0	0.8

Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001 and 2006.

Statistics Canada cautions the reader that the regional labour force data may be subject to large year-to-year fluctuations, especially for the smaller regions. Hence Statistics Canada Census 2001 and 2006 data was used for all labour force indicators in the Slave Lake Region.

Employment by Industry, Slave Lake, 2006 (In '000s)



INCOME, TAXFILER

In 2006, the average individual income[7] for all taxfilers for the Slave Lake Region was $28,905, a 15.3% increase from 2005. The percentage of taxfilers that reported an individual gross income of $100,000 and over was 3.9%.

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region			
Individual Income[7]	**2006**	**2005**	**2004**
Average Individual Income ($)	28,905	25,075	22,695
Income Range		**%**	
Negative Claims (Includes $0)	20.6%	18.1%	19.2%
$1 - $20,000	31.5%	35.8%	37.0%
$20,000 - $40,000	18.3%	18.7%	18.8%
$40,000 - $60,000	12.4%	12.5%	11.9%
$60,000 - $80,000	8.8%	8.5%	7.9%
$80,000 - $99,999	4.6%	3.6%	2.9%
$100,000+	3.9%	2.9%	2.4%
Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise			

In 2006, the average couple (defined as married or common law) income for all taxfilers for the Slave Lake Region was $83,105, a 16.0% increase from 2005. The percentage of taxfilers that defined themselves as a couple and reported an income of $100,000 and over was 29.3%.

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region			
Couple Income[7]	**2006**	**2005**	**2004**
Average Couple Income ($)	83,105	71,640	65,620
Income Range		**%**	
Negative Claims (Includes $0)	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%
$1 - $20,000	13.7%	14.9%	17.1%
$20,000 - $40,000	17.1%	18.6%	19.6%
$40,000 - $60,000	13.6%	15.4%	15.4%
$60,000 - $80,000	13.2%	14.8 %	15.1%
$80,000 - $99,999	12.7%	12.5%	12.5%
$100,000+	29.3%	23.5%	19.7%
Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise			

INVESTMENT

In 2007, the total building permit value for the Slave Lake Region increased by 8.0% from 2006 to $69.5 million, 52.1% more than the 10-year average of $45.7 million. Between 2006 and 2007, the residential building permit value for the region increased by 32.7% to $44.8 million.

In 2007, the number of total housing starts in the Slave Lake Region increased by 26.5% from 2006 to 277 units. The number of 2007 starts was 72.0% higher than the 10-year average of 161. The number of single family housing starts in the region increased by 59.5% from 2006 to 142 units.

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region			
Building Permit Values and Housing Starts (2007)	**2007**	**2006**	**2005**
Total Building Permit Value ($000s)	69,552	64,366	63,444
% of Provincial Total	0.4%	0.5%	0.6%
Per Capita Building Permit Value ($)[8]	2,424	2,243	2,617
Total Building Permit Value ($000s), 5-year average (2003 - 2007)	51,460		
Total Building Permit Value ($000s), 10-year average (1998 - 2007)	45,735		
Commercial Building Permit Value ($000s)	15,154	16,227	18,841
Commercial % of Total Building Permit Value	21.8%	25.2%	29.7%
% of Provincial Commercial Building Permit Value	0.3%	0.4%	0.8%
Industrial Building Permit Value ($000s)	7,181	13,662	25,443
Industrial % of Total Building Permit Value	10.3%	21.2%	40.1%
% of Provincial Industrial Building Permit Value	0.8%	1.3%	3.0%
Institutional Building Permit Value ($000s)	2,394	701	150
Institutional % of Total Building Permit Value	3.4%	1.1%	0.2%
% of Provincial Institutional Building Permit Value	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%
Residential Building Permit Value ($000s)	44,823	33,776	19,010
Residential % of Total Building Permit Value	64.4%	52.5%	30.0%
% of Provincial Residential Building Permit Value	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%
Single Family Housing Starts	142	89	103
Single Family Housing Starts, 5-year average (2003 - 2007)	109		
Single Family Housing Starts, 10-year average (1998 - 2007)	116		
Total Housing Starts	277	219	127
Total Housing Starts, 5-year average (2003 - 2007)	174		
Total Housing Starts, 10-year average (1998 - 2007)	161		
Source: Statistics Canada, Compilation by Alberta Finance and Enterprise			

ESTABLISHMENTS WITH EMPLOYEES

In 2007, 67.4% of all business establishments with employees in the Slave Lake Region were classified in the services-producing sector which includes such industries as Retail Trade, Accommodation and Food Services, and Public Administration.

From 2006 to 2007, there was a net increase of 2.8% or 35 in the total number of establishments with employees in the Slave Lake Region. Between 2002 and 2007, the number of establishments with employees for all industries in the Slave Lake Region increased by 2.4% or 30 establishments.

From 2006 to 2007, the goods-producing sector in the Slave Lake Region had a net increase of 2.9% or 12 establishments. Over the same period, the services-producing sector in the Slave Lake Region had an increase of 2.7% or 23 establishments.

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region

Establishment with Employees[9]	2007	2006	2002	1 Year % Change	5 Year % Change
Total All Industries	**1,302**	**1,267**	**1,272**	**2.8%**	**2.4%**
Total Goods Industries	**425**	**413**	**438**	**2.9%**	**-3.0%**
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	74	88	104	-15.9%	-28.8%
Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	137	116	107	18.1%	28.0%
Utilities	-	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Construction	184	181	194	1.7%	-5.2%
Manufacturing	30	28	33	7.1%	-9.1%
Total Service Industries	**877**	**854**	**834**	**2.7%**	**5.2%**
Wholesale Trade	59	41	48	43.9%	22.9%
Retail Trade	146	143	131	2.1%	11.5%
Transportation and Warehousing	113	117	118	-3.4%	-4.2%
Information and Cultural Industries	9	9	10	0.0%	-10.0%
Finance and Insurance	20	14	13	42.9%	53.8%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	37	47	35	-21.3%	5.7%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	105	108	96	-2.8%	9.4%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	17	19	21	-10.5%	-19.0%
Administrative, Waste Management and Remediation	59	61	48	-3.3%	22.9%
Educational Services	8	8	12	0.0%	-33.3%
Health Care and Social Assistance	68	66	79	3.0%	-13.9%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	9	12	9	-25.0%	0.0%
Accommodation and Food Services	60	64	65	-6.3%	-7.7%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	151	129	132	17.1%	14.4%
Public Administration	16	16	17	0.0%	-5.9%

Source: 2007 Alberta Business Monitor, Alberta Finance and Enterprise

SMALL BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS

In 2007, 95.9% of all business establishments in the Slave Lake Region were classified as small business (businesses that have between 1 and 49 employees). The Construction industry had the largest number of small businesses followed by Other Services and Retail Trade.

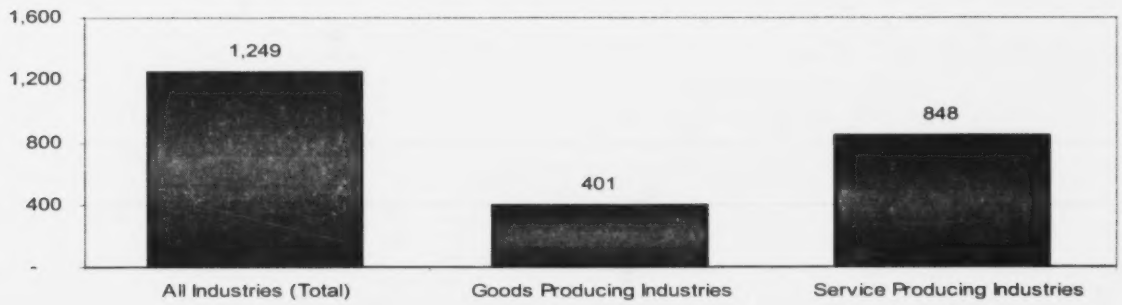
From 2006 to 2007, the total number of small business establishments in the Slave Lake Region rose by 3.1% or 38 establishments. From 2002 to 2007, the number of small establishments with employees rose by 2.0% or 25 establishments.

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region

Small Business Establishments[10] (1 - 49 employees)	2007	2006	2002	1 Year % Change	5 Year % Change
Total All Industries	1,249	1,211	1,224	3.1%	2.0%
Total Goods Industries	401	392	420	2.3%	-4.5%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	73	84	104	-13.1%	-29.8%
Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	129	111	102	16.2%	26.5%
Utilities	-	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Construction	179	176	189	1.7%	-5.3%
Manufacturing	20	21	25	-4.8%	-20.0%
Total Service Industries	848	819	804	3.5%	5.5%
Wholesale Trade	59	41	48	43.9%	22.9%
Retail Trade	142	138	123	2.9%	15.4%
Transportation and Warehousing	112	112	116	0.0%	-3.4%
Information and Cultural Industries	9	9	10	0.0%	-10.0%
Finance and Insurance	20	14	13	42.9%	53.8%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	35	46	32	-23.9%	9.4%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	105	107	96	-1.9%	9.4%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	17	19	20	-10.5%	-15.0%
Administrative, Waste Management and Remediation	59	61	48	-3.3%	22.9%
Educational Services	6	6	10	0.0%	-40.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	62	60	76	3.3%	-18.4%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	9	12	9	-25.0%	0.0%
Accommodation and Food Services	54	58	61	-6.9%	-11.5%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	149	125	128	19.2%	16.4%
Public Administration	10	11	14	-9.1%	-28.6%

Source: 2007 Alberta Business Monitor, Alberta Finance and Enterprise

Small Business (1 - 49 Employees) Establishment Count, 2007



INVENTORY OF MAJOR PROJECTS

As of December 31, 2008, there were 13 projects in the Slave Lake Region, which were proposed, planned, under construction or completed.

The total value for these 13 projects for the region was $182.6 million. The largest projects are in the Institutional and Infrastructure sectors.

Please note: 2008 and 2007 can not be compared because some projects are carried over several years and there is only one cost available for the entire project

Economic Indicators: Slave Lake Region

Major Construction Projects, As of December 31 [11]

	Projects		Value ($millions)	
Industry Sector	**2008**	**2007**	**2008**	**2007**
Infrastructure	7	7	$79.4	$74.2
Institutional	4	5	$81.7	$83.0
Power	1	1	$15.0	$15.0
Residential	4	1	$31.3	$9.1
Tourism/Recreation	0	4	$0.0	$31.3
TOTAL	**13**	**19**	**$182.6**	**$216.0**

Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise, Inventory of Major Alberta Projects

1. This inventory lists projects in Alberta, valued at $5 million or greater, which have recently been completed, are currently under construction, or are proposed to start construction within two years. Not all projects over this threshold are listed due to reasons of confidentiality and/or due to information not being available at time of printing.
2. Project data is obtained from public information sources. Although, where possible, this data has been verified with the project proponent/developer, users of the Inventory may wish to confirm project data with the proponent/developer.
3. The inventory does not breakdown project expenditures by any given year. The cost of the project is the value of expenditures expected over all phases of project construction, which may span over two or more years.
4. The cost of projects listed in the Inventory are estimated values only.

Economic Indicator Definitions
1 Dependency Ratio – The percentage of the population below the age of 15 (Child) and over the age of 64 (Elderly) divided by the number of adults (15 – 64). This is the population of children and elderly that are dependent on the adult population for economic needs.
2 Old Age Dependency Ratio – The percentage of the population over the age of 64 (Elderly) divided by the number of adults (15 - 64).This is the population that is dependent on the adult population for economic needs.
3 Permanent Immigrants – Citizenship and Immigration Canada's (CIC) count of where immigrants are landing within the province of Alberta. This includes spouses, dependents, entrepreneurs, investors, self employed, refugees and family sponsorship. This does not take into account those that land in other Canadian provinces and then move to Alberta.
4 Annualized Percentage Growth, 1997 - 2007, 10 Years (%) – The average annual increase in immigrants over the 10 year period.
5 Labour Force Characteristics – Drawn from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS) or from the Census. The LFS is the source of current, monthly, and annual estimates of total employment (including self-employment) and unemployment. Allocating existing LFS respondents to Economic Indicator Regions results in insufficient data for certain regions (i.e. Insufficient sample sizes). **LABOUR FORCE:** Persons who are 15 years or over that were not institutional residents that were either employed or unemployed for the year. Labour Force = Employed + Unemployed. **PARTICIPATION RATE:** Number of persons from the labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. Participation Rate = (Labour Force / Population 15 years and over)*100. **UNEMPLOYMENT RATE:** Number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. Unemployment Rate = (Unemployed / Labour Force)*100. **EMPLOYMENT RATE:** Number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. Employment Rate = (Employed / Population 15 years and over)*100.
6 Employment by Industry – Based on the LFS or Census data. Industry and occupation codes are assigned using the respondent's job description on the questionnaire. Codes assigned are based on the classifications described in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2002).
7 Income (2006) **Individual Income (2006):** Gross income for individuals filing income tax in Alberta in 2006. **Couple Income (2006):** Gross income for people that defined themselves as married or common law when filing the income tax in Alberta in 2006.
8 Per Capita Building Permit Value ($) – Total value of building permits for a region divided by its population.
9 Establishments with Employees – Business establishments are presented by the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) industry codes. Commercial industries are included as are several in the public sector (schools, universities, hospitals, government offices, churches, service clubs, etc.)
10 Small Business Establishments – Business establishment with less than 49 employees and at least one employee. This does not include individuals that are self-employed.
11 Major Projects – As of December 2008, a list of major development projects in Alberta that are valued at $5 million or more that are planned, currently under construction or recently completed. Project data is obtained from public information sources. Updated information is added monthly, the print edition is updated quarterly.

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You can access the Regional Economic Indicators reports and the following related department publications on the Internet at **www.albertacanada.com/statpub**:

- Alberta's International Merchandise Exports
- Facts on Alberta
- Highlights of the Alberta Economy
- Inventory of Major Alberta Projects
- Monthly Economic Review
- Place-to-Place Price Comparison Survey

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